

REMARKS

Drawings

Enclosed herewith are four sheets of formal drawings to replace the informal drawings filed with the application. No substantive changes to the content of the figures have been made. Approval of the enclosed drawings is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Applicant's background section in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,208,663 to Schramm and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,522,352 to Strandwitz.

Claims 10-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,212,240 to Scheibel in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,603,808 to Anne.

Claims 12-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Scheibel in view of Anne and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,741,659 to Chan.

Claims 14-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Scheibel in view of Anne in view of Chan and further in view of Strandwitz.

To expedite prosecution of the application, independent claim 1 has been amended to include features previously recited by claims 2 and 3. The Examiner has indicated that claim 1, as amended, would be allowable. The dependency of claims 4-9 have been amended, but continue to depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Claim 9 has been amended to correct the tense of the word "initialize." Accordingly, claims 1 and 4-9 are considered to be allowable.

To expedite prosecution of the application, independent claim 10 has been amended to include features previously recited by claims 15 and 17. The Examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The prior wording of claim 17 has been amended for consistency with the inclusion of the recited features in claim 10. Although amended claim 10 does not include the features of all intervening claims, it is submitted that the features of claim 10, as amended, patentably define over the cited references. The dependency of

claims 11-14 and 16 have been amended, but continue to depend from claim 10.

Accordingly, claims 10-14 and 16 are considered to be allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 3-9 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As discussed above, the features of claims 3 and 17 have been incorporated respectively in claims 1 and 10.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned representative to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0988, our Order No. E0865.

Respectfully submitted,

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